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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---|-------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| 10/759,676 | 01/16/2004 | Larry S. Eoff | HES 2003-IP-009462U1 | 8605 |
| 28857 | 7590 | 12/06/2005 | EXAMINER | |
| CRAIG W. RODDY HALLIBURTON ENERGY SERVICES P.O. BOX 1431 DUNCAN, OK 73536-0440 | | | BATES, ZAKIYA W | |
| | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | 3676 | |

DATE MAILED: 12/06/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/759,676

Applicant(s)

EOFF ET AL.

Examiner

Zakiya W. Bates

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-76 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8,40-46 and 74-76 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 9-39 and 47-73 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 01162004, 07112005
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because the term "the present invention" is stated in lines 1 and 4. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).
2. Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

Claim Objections

3. Claims 74 and 75 are objected to because of the following informalities: claim 74 recites "another example of a method of the present invention is" in line 1, which should be deleted. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

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5. Claims 1-8, 40-46, and 74-76 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US 5,957,204 (cited by applicant) or US 6,070,667.

US'204 discloses a method that includes a method for sealing junctions between subterranean well bores comprising the steps of: placing a sealant into a region of a subterranean formation surrounding a junction between a first well bore and a second well bore that is in fluid communication with the first well bore; and allowing the sealant to penetrate into the formation to a desired depth and solidify therein. With respect to the depending claims, the reference teaches the limitations as claimed, including an epoxide, a hardening agent and an epoxy resin. With respect to claim 74, the reference discloses a method that includes a method of producing hydrocarbons from a multilateral well having at least a first and second well bore in fluid communication with each other, comprising the step of placing a sealant in a desired location to prevent the migration of undesirable fluids and/or particulates into either the first or second well bore from that location. With respect to the depending claim, the reference teaches the limitations as claimed. With respect to claim 76, the reference discloses a method of preventing the flow of undesirable fluids and/or particulates into a multilateral well bore comprising the steps of: placing a sealant into a region of a subterranean formation surrounding a junction between a first well bore and a second well bore that are in fluid communication with each other; and allowing the sealant to penetrate into the formation to a desired depth and solidify therein.

US'667 discloses a method that includes a method for sealing junctions between subterranean well bores comprising the steps of: placing a sealant 134 into a region of a

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subterranean formation 130 surrounding a junction between a first well bore 124 and a second well bore 126 that is in fluid communication with the first well bore; and allowing the sealant to penetrate into the formation to a desired depth and solidify therein (see especially Fig. 6). With respect to the depending claims, the reference teaches the limitations as claimed, including an epoxide, a hardening agent and an epoxy resin. With respect to claim 74, the reference discloses a method that includes a method of producing hydrocarbons from a multilateral well having at least a first and second well bore in fluid communication with each other, comprising the step of placing a sealant in a desired location to prevent the migration of undesirable fluids and/or particulates into either the first or second well bore from that location. With respect to the depending claim, the reference teaches the limitations as claimed. With respect to claim 76, the reference discloses a method of preventing the flow of undesirable fluids and/or particulates into a multilateral well bore comprising the steps of: placing a sealant into a region of a subterranean formation surrounding a junction between a first well bore and a second well bore that are in fluid communication with each other; and allowing the sealant to penetrate into the formation to a desired depth and solidify therein.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 9-39 and 47-73 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Zakiya W. Bates (formerly Zakiya Walker) whose telephone number is (571) 272-7039. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:30 AM-5 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Glessner can be reached on (571) 272-6843. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Zakiya W. Bates
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3676

zb
December 1, 2005